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REPORT OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Second part of the forty-first session and first part of the forty-second session*

(20-31 March 1995)

* The report of the Trade and Development Board on the first part of its forty-first session was issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/49/15). The present document is a mimeographed version of the report of the Board on the second part of its forty-first session and first part of the forty-second session. It will be issued subsequently as Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 15 (A/50/15), vol. I.

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INTRODUCTION

The second part of the forty-first session of the Trade and Development Board was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 20 to 31 March 1995. In the course of the session, the Board held four plenary meetings - the 855th to 858th meetings.

This report to the United Nations General Assembly has been prepared by the Rapporteur under the authority of the President of the Board, in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the Board in the annex to its decision 302 (XXIX) of 21 September 1984. The report records, as appropriate, the action by the Board on the substantive items of its agenda (section I), the statements of position made in connection with specific action by the Board (section II), and the procedural, institutional, organizational and administrative matters (section III).

In connection with the action reported in section I, attention is drawn to paragraph 56 of the Cartagena Commitment, which reads as follows:

> "The outcome of deliberative processes in the Trade and Development Board and its subsidiary bodies need not take the form of resolutions. Greater use should be made of agreed conclusions, assessments or summings-up by presiding officers, particularly when the issues are new or difficult ones, requiring further exploration and the building of common perceptions."

Volume II of the report of the Board on the second part of its forty-first session - to be issued subsequently in TD/B/41(2)/15 (Vol.II) - will reflect all the statements made in the course of the session on the various items of the agenda.

I. ACTION BY THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD ON SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS OF ITS AGENDA [1]

A. Preparations for the ninth session of the Conference

(Agenda item 7)

Provisional agenda and agreed annotations for the ninth session of the Conference [2]

Promoting growth and sustainable development in a globalizing and liberalizing world economy

Meeting the challenge of maximizing the developmental impact of globalization and liberalization, while minimizing the risks of marginalization and instability. Towards this end, the Conference will deal with the following topics:

1. Development policies and strategies in an increasingly interdependent world economy in the 1990s and beyond

   (a) Assessment of the development problematique in the current context

   (b) Policies and strategies for the future

2. Promoting international trade as an instrument for development in the post-Uruguay Round world

3. Promoting enterprise development and competitiveness in developing countries and countries in transition

4. Future work of UNCTAD in accordance with its mandate; institutional implications.

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[1] For the Board's action on organizational and institutional matters, see section III below.

[2] As approved by the Trade and Development Board at its 858th plenary meeting on 31 March 1995. The Board requested the Officer-in-charge of UNCTAD to complete the provisional agenda with the customary procedural and administrative items. The Board also took note of the secretariat background note annexed hereto. (In connection with the Board's approval of the provisional agenda and agreed annotations, see also section II below.)

Agreed annotations to the provisional agenda for UNCTAD IX

Against the background of an assessment of trends in the world economy, in particular those related to the processes of globalization and liberalization, the Conference will consider national and international policy approaches and measures for promoting growth and sustainable development.

Topic 1 (a)

The Conference will make an assessment of the fundamental trends in the international economic system, notably the growing and deepening interdependence among countries and sectors of the economy, in the light of their consequences for the development process. The Conference will examine in particular the opportunities for growth and development offered by the processes of globalization and liberalization in interlinked areas of trade, technology, money and finance, investment, services, commodities and environment, as well as the risks and potentially negative consequences that might be involved in these processes. The Conference could also examine the new and emerging issues within its competence in the perspective of their implications for trade and development.

Topic 1 (b)

The Conference will consider relevant national and international policies and strategies which are needed to enable developing countries to take full advantage of the opportunities for growth and development offered by the new global context while minimizing the risks of new imbalances and instabilities, including in international financial markets, and the potential marginalization of the least developed countries and other weaker economies. In this context the Conference will take into consideration the relevant problems of interested economies in transition. The Conference would also consider appropriate international support measures for enabling the least developed countries to participate more effectively in the globalization and liberalization processes, while taking into account the outcome of the Mid-term Global Review on the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries in the 1990s. Similar measures could also be considered for low-income countries and other structurally weaker economies such as those in Africa, with the aim of improving economic conditions through raising income levels and export earnings.

In this connection, the objective should be to build consensus on the elements of development cooperation and appropriate development policy approaches and strategies, both at relevant national and international levels, required for the future. In that context, the Conference should also pay attention, *inter alia*, to issues related to the problems of unemployment, poverty alleviation and sustainable development; policies to expand and consolidate progress in access to markets; the role of government as well as the public and private sectors in the development process; resource flows and external debt. The Conference would also address new approaches to South-South economic cooperation, as well as the role and potential impact on development of regional economic groupings in the globalizing and liberalizing world economy.

Topic 2

The Conference should focus on the consideration of concrete policies, measures and actions, both at relevant national and international levels, needed to promote the integration of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, into the international trading system. The Conference would consider relevant national and international measures to facilitate the integration of interested economies in transition into the international trading sytem. In particular, the Conference should cover the following areas: the impact of the Uruguay Round Agreements on development; measures to assist developing countries to benefit fully from trading opportunities arising from the Round while making proposals for translating into concrete action the commitments made at the Ministerial Meeting in Marrakesh regarding the least developed countries and net food-importing countries; promoting complementarity between UNCTAD and WTO with a view to addressing trade-related development concerns of the developing countries; the evolution of the generalized system of preferences; measures for capacity-building in trade efficiency, including access to information technologies; the implications of information technologies for trade; trade and environment; the interrelationship between trade and competition policy; capacity building in developing countries in services and trading opportunities in this sector; reduction of the instability and risks faced by the commodity-export-dependent developing countries; promotion of commodity diversification; and efficient management of natural resources.

Topic 3

The Conference will focus on the identification of concrete policies, measures and actions, both at relevant national and international levels, needed to create and promote entrepreneurship and an enabling environment for the development of internationally competitive enterprises, taking into account the promotion of small and medium-size enterprises and their financing. Policy measures will be considered in an integrated manner covering areas such as encouragement of domestic and foreign investment; development of technological capabilities and transfer of technology; privatization and public-sector reform; interrelationship between competition and enterprise development.

Topic 4

The Conference will assess the work completed by UNCTAD since its eighth session, as well as the institutional reforms adopted at that session. The Conference will also consider the future role of UNCTAD, including its relationship with other international institutions to generate synergies among them. On the basis of UNCTAD's mandate and with a view to strengthening the United Nations system, the Conference should enable UNCTAD to become a more effective instrument for promoting development and the full integration of the developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, into the world economy and the international trading system. The Conference should take into consideration the need for the integration of the interested economies in transition into the world economy and the international trading system. Taking also into account the outcomes under topics 1, 2 and 3, the Conference would decide on the work programme implications and on the structures and orientations of the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD.

The Conference will also consider, in accordance with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, UNCTAD's contribution, within its competence, to the follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations Conferences, including *inter alia* the World Summit for Social Development.

858th plenary meeting
31 March 1995

Annex

BACKGROUND TO THE PPOVISIONAL AGENDA FOR UNCTAD IX

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The world economy appears to be fundamentally characterized by two closely linked, but distinct, processes: economic globalization and liberalization. These processes offer great opportunities for growth and development, but also entail risks of instability and marginalization both among and within nations. The challenge for national and international policy is to move in directions that maximize the developmental impact of globalization and liberalization while minimizing the risks of marginalization and instability. This challenge might serve as the basis for the formulation of the agenda of UNCTAD IX.

2. UNCTAD IX would thus consider relevant national and international policies and strategies for promoting growth and sustainable development against the background of a broad assessment of important trends in the world economy, which takes full account of the complex interlinkages among sectors and issues. At the same time, the fact should be recognized that, while a number of problems are common to all developing countries - and indeed, in some cases, to developed countries as well - some countries appear to be in need of special attention in the new context. Thus, particular consideration will have to be given to the problems of the LDCs, which must face globalization and liberalization from a situation of constraint stemming from infrastructural insufficiences, debt overhang, commodity dependence, etc. Similar consideration should also be given to low-income countries and other weaker economies such as those in Africa.

3. The Conference should further aim at identifying concrete policies, measures and actions, at national and international levels, that can make a positive contribution to the goal of allowing developing countries, as well as countries in transition, to profit from the opportunities offered by a globalizing and liberalizing world economy, while minimizing risks and difficulties. This effort could be envisaged in the context of innovative and dynamic formats, with the involvement of the private sector, business, labour, academia, NGOs, local government, etc. Decision-making powers, however, would remain vested in member States. Thematically, consideration of concrete policies, measures and actions could be structured around a small number of basic topics that would stem from, but would however not necessarily exhaust, the wide range of issues covered in the discussions on broad trends in the world economy.

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4. Special attention should be given to taking advantage of the opportunities offered by South-South cooperation. In a context characterized by rapid growth and economic dynamism in some developing regions and countries, and growing developing-developed country regional links, significant possibilities for complementarity and cooperation present themselves and should be fully explored.

5. The Conference will also provide an opportunity for member States to assess the institutional reforms adopted at UNCTAD VIII, and to consider the future role of UNCTAD in order to enhance its effectiveness. The Conference would also decide on the future orientation of the work of UNCTAD's intergovernmental bodies.

6. The goals of further strengthening international economic cooperation for development, based on the concept of Partnership for Development as defined in the Cartagena Commitment, and of confidence-building among countries for the promotion of growth and sustainable development, should guide the preparations for the Conference.

7. The Conference will also be guided by the outcomes of the major United Nations Conferences in the field of development that will have taken place since UNCTAD VIII. These include the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the United Nations International Symposium on Trade Efficiency. The Conference will also take into account in its deliberations the Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the Agenda for Development and the subsequent intergovernmental debate on this subject.

B. Agreed conclusions and decision adopted by the Board

Item 2. Trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform: developments relating to structural adjustment policies in developed countries and their implications

Agreed conclusions 422 (XLI): Structural adjustment policies

1. In pursuance of the Cartagena Commitment, in particular paragraphs 63(1) and 66, the Trade and Development Board undertook a review of developments relating to structural adjustment policies in developed countries and their implications. Its discussions were enriched by the documentation prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat and by the stimulating contributions of experts.

2. In the course of the discussions, a broad convergence of views emerged on the following conclusions:

(a) In accordance with the Cartagena Commitment, structural adjustment is a global issue with a crucial part to play in ensuring the enhanced participation in the world economy of developing countries and countries in transition.

(b) Pressures on economic agents to adjust and growing competition are challenges which all countries have to face as the world economy becomes more global and trade liberalization continues. The full implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements will further increase adjustment pressures.

(c) The principal responsibility of Governments in this process is to create stable framework conditions to allow for structural adjustment. Substantial efforts have been made by countries in all regions to: introduce deregulation and privatization; open markets to competition; and provide a more liberal framework for enterprises to produce, trade and invest. Such measures have substantially improved the micro- and macroeconomic framework for successful adjustment processes.

(d) The process of structural adjustment which is largely driven by market forces should not be resisted by Governments but rather be supplemented by appropriate policies and measures. Governments should take a positive approach to structural adjustment and adopt a global perspective favouring a dynamic process in production and trade beyond national boundaries in order to improve transparency and coherence at the multilateral level. Shifts from sectors with declining international competitiveness towards more capital- and skill-intensive activities should be encouraged. Such an approach is not only of benefit to developed countries but has an impact on the world economy as a whole and especially on trade and development opportunities of developing countries, as increasing globalization amplifies the international repercussions of domestic policies. In the structural adjustment process, Governments in developed countries should therefore take due account of implications of their policies for developing countries and countries in transition. A favourable international policy environment conducive to enhanced interaction between economies is crucial for the success of the economic reforms already being undertaken by developing countries and economies in transition.

(e) Structural adjustment policies should not aim at maintaining inefficient production structures but should allow a positive approach to promote shifts in patterns of production and trade in line with changes in comparative advantage. Such an approach could support functional measures such as vocational training, and particularly retraining in new skills, research, technical development and technological innovation. Measures to restore international competitiveness of enterprises can also contribute to tackling the problem of unemployment. In accordance with principles articulated by OECD, government support should be temporary, transparent, linked to the phasing out of obsolete capacity and free of protectionist measures against imports. In line with such a positive approach, the continuation of uncompetitive production will not be encouraged as protection, subsidies and other forms of government support in their favour are phased out. A positive approach would create substantial new room for expansion of production and trade in developing countries and countries in transition in sectors where they have gained a comparative advantage.

(f) A policy framework which is favourable to structural adjustment could facilitate the comprehensive and effective implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements, lower resistance to further liberalization, and make economies better prepared for future negotiations on improving market access. Sectors of particular concern to developing countries and countries in transition include, *inter alia*, textiles, clothing, hides and skins, footwear, steel, marine products, agriculture, agro-based industries, as well as certain rapidly expanding services industries. Effective improvement of market access for products and services of developing countries and economies in transition will, in turn, increase their import capacity and benefit exports and structural adjustment in developed countries.

(g) Structural adjustment policies need to be clearly announced, with a statement of the objectives pursued and the instruments to be used. Information on the results obtained is essential to guide future government policy as well as to permit an evaluation of the effects for other countries. The analysis being carried out by the UNCTAD secretariat on corporate strategies of global firms was welcomed, in view of the impact of these strategies on international trade and industrial production structures.

3. There was also an interesting discussion on the role of foreign direct investment (FDI) in structural adjustment. In the course of the discussion, it was suggested that, in the design of structural adjustment policies, a global perspective should be adopted which favours adjustment beyond national boundaries. FDI could play an important role in structural adjustment and could be facilitated by home and host countries improving the framework conditions. While enterprises themselves must take the necessary decisions and risks, an active policy of international industrial and technological cooperation could promote intra-industry trade and greater integration in production processes, in particular international networks of cooperation between small- and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs). Relocation policies could form part of the instruments for adjustment with respect to production processes which were no longer competitive. Such policies could: stimulate private investment in developing countries and economies in transition; contribute to a further geographical expansion of global and regional production networks; and, at the same time, strengthen the competitiveness of enterprises in the home countries. A dynamic policy of international cooperation could also contribute to reducing the marginalization of weaker economies while maximizing the positive effects of structural adjustment processes.

4. In order to follow up the conclusions in paragraph 2, the Board agrees that:

(a) Consideration of the impact on developing countries of structural adjustment and economic reforms in developed countries has been useful. These questions will have continued relevance as part of UNCTAD's general work on trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform. It would be for the next Conference to consider the priority to be given to these issues and the best way they could be handled. The UNCTAD secretariat should seek closer cooperation from OECD and other relevant organizations for the conduct of its work.

(b) The Eminent Persons' Meeting on "Development of East and South-East Asia under the new development strategy: role of the government", sponsored by the Government of Japan, provides an opportunity to exchange experiences, including those related to structural adjustment policies, and to assess their contribution to a more efficient international division of labour.

(c) The Ad Hoc Working Group on Trading Opportunities in the New International Trading Context is invited to accord due attention to the potential contribution of structural adjustment and relevant government policies to the process of liberalization and the creation of new market opportunities for developing countries and economies in transition.

(d) The Ad Hoc Working Group on the Role of Enterprises in Development is invited to consider the extent to which it could take up, within the constraints of its current work programme, the issue of the role which relocation, intra-industry trade and industrial networking of SMEs can play in global structural adjustment processes. The potential role of FDI in structural adjustment could be further examined in the context of UNCTAD's work on international investment and transnational corporations.

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Item 4. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s:

(a) Status of preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

(b) Annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action

Agreed conclusions 423 (XLI): Least developed countries

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/206, the Trade and Development Board conducted its 5th annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the LDCs for the 1990s. The Board recognized that, in view of the forthcoming High-Level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action, scheduled in accordance with the General Assembly resolution 49/98 to be held in New York from 26 September to 6 October 1995, the present session of the Board is of particular significance as it could provide important directions and guidance for the work of the Donor/Recipient Meeting in May 1995 and to the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting itself.

2. The Board took note of the briefings provided by the UNCTAD secretariat on the preparatory activities which had already taken place and on the series of forthcoming meetings planned prior to the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting. The Board recommended that participation in the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting be at the highest level wherever possible. Furthermore, in accordance with the provision of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/98 of 19 December 1994, it requested the UNCTAD secretariat to intensify its efforts to mobilize the necessary resources to ensure the full and effective participation of LDCs' representatives in the preparatory meetings and the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting.

3. The Board, which had the Least Developed Countries Report 1995 as the background document, commended the secretariat for the quality of the analysis contained in the Report and recognized that it provided a useful basis for its deliberations. The Board urged the secretariat to ensure that the Report is made available to delegations in a timely way and in all official languages of the United Nations. The Committee requested the secretariat to prepare an update of the Report in time for the High-level Meeting in September 1995.

4. The Board exchanged views on issues before it. Many delegations drew attention to the progressive deterioration of economic and social conditions in LDCs despite vigorous efforts by them to implement economic reforms as envisaged in the Programme of Action. This was attributed to both domestic and external factors. The inadequacy of external finance, impediments to market access and persistence of debt-servicing difficulties were cited by many participants as major contributory factors to the deterioration in their economic performance. Attention was drawn to the possible lessons which could be derived from the experiences of LDCs which have performed relatively well and the Board urged the secretariat to identify gaps in the implementation of reforms as well as additional measures, keeping in mind the need for improved supply capacity and the human dimension, and to analyse more fully the question whether such experiences can be replicated by other LDCs. Attention was also drawn to the important contribution which the NGO community continues to make to the development process.

5. The Board noted that the land-locked and island least developed countries continue to face formidable problems in their development efforts. In this connection, it was noted that the forthcoming Symposium for Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries and the second Meeting of Governmental Experts from Land-locked and Transit Developing Countries, Donor Countries and Financial and Development Institutions, scheduled for June 1995, will address specific regional problems in implementing the recommendations of the first Meeting of Governmental Experts held in May 1993. The outcome of these meetings will be an important input to the Mid-term Global Review.

6. The Board felt that the proceedings of the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting could be significantly enhanced if a comprehensive assessment of the progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action by Governments was made available to the High-level Meeting. Such an assessment could then provide the basis for the consideration of new measures to accelerate the implementation of the Programme of Action. With this in mind, the Board agreed that the assessment should take into account, inter alia, the following:

(a) Developments in the world economy since 1990 as they affect the growth and development performance of LDCs and lessons learned from adjustment and macro-economic and sectoral policy reforms;

(b) Provision of ODA and debt relief measures during the early 1990s and the implications of the enlargement of the list of LDCs, in particular for international support measures;

(c) The challenges posed by the ongoing processes of globalization and liberalization for the social and economic conditions in the LDCs;

(d) Implications of the occurrence of political and civil strife in a number of LDCs, in particular for their capacity to administer and manage their development;

(e) The substantive outcomes, as they relate to LDCs, of the major United Nations conferences, notably the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (1992), the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development (1995) and the Fourth World Conference on Women (September 1995);

(f) The coming into force of the World Trade Organization and the implications of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round for LDCs' trading opportunities.

7. The Board requested the Chairman of the Special Sessional Committee to undertake intensive consultations with States members of UNCTAD with a view to arriving at an assessment of progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action, together with possible recommendations for consideration at the Donor/Recipient Meeting.

8. The Board recommended that the Conference, at its ninth session, take fully into account the outcome of the Mid-Term Global Review of the Programme of Action.

9. The Board recommended for adoption by the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting the draft provisional agenda and the proposals for organization of work annexed to these agreed conclusions.

858th plenary meeting
31 March 1995

Annex

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING ON THE MID-TERM GLOBAL REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR THE 1990S

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 49/98 of 19 December 1994, decided to convene the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s in New York from 26 September to 6 October 1995, to be preceded by a one-day meeting of Senior Officials on 25 September 1995. The Meeting shall carry out the mid-term global review, consider new measures as necessary, and report to the General Assembly on progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action. Accordingly, the Board may wish to consider and recommend to the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting the following provisional agenda and organization of work.

I. DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

3. Mid-term global review of progress towards the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s:

   (a) Review of progress in implementation at the country level;

   (b) Review of progress in international support measures;

   (c) Consideration of new measures for ensuring the full and effective implementation of the Programme over the second half of the decade

4. Other business

5. Adoption of the report.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

(a) Rules of procedures

The High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review on the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, may wish to use the rules of procedure of the General Assembly as appropriate.

(b) Organization of work

The High-level Intergovernmental Meeting will have nine working days. The meeting may wish to establish two committees in addition to the plenary.

General discussion will take place in the plenary. Committee I may be assigned to consider and report on agenda items 3(a) and 3(b) and Committee II to consider and report on agenda item 3(c).

The UNCTAD secretariat will prepare a tentative list of issues to be dealt with by the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting. The proposal will be submitted to the one-day meeting of senior officials mentioned in paragraph 4(a) of General Assembly resolution 49/98.

Item 5. UNCTAD'S contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s:

(a) Sustainable development, population, human resources and environment

(b) Progress report by the UNCTAD secretariat and evaluation of UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the New Agenda

Agreed conclusions 424 (XLI): United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

1. The Trade and Development Board held an exchange of views on the specific issues relating to sustainable development, population, human resources and environment in Africa, as well as UNCTAD's contribution to the New Agenda on Africa. The Board's deliberations identified factors that need to be addressed in order to enhance the possibility of the realization of sustainable development in Africa, including effective measures to address the population issue, poverty alleviation and reduction, and an enabling domestic and external environment. The Board noted that many of these issues had been addressed recently in major international forums. It was desirable to the extent possible for the Board to have an assessment of the impact of UNCTAD's activities and programmes on Africa.

2. The Board agreed that:

(a) The economic situation in most of Africa continues to deteriorate and, according to most of the available statistics, official resource flows for development purposes to Africa (including net ODA) have fallen significantly since 1990;

(b) Environmental problems in Africa are largely related to poverty, and environmental protection therefore requires first and foremost poverty alleviation and reduction. This calls for effective measures, including the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to Africa on favourable terms and the provision of new and additional resources in full accordance with the conclusions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992;

(c) The high rate of population growth in Africa is having a serious negative impact on economic growth and sustainable development. The international community should rightly support the national policies aimed at implementing the Cairo Plan of Action to promote the issues of population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development, and advances in the education and economic status of women.

3. The Board invites African countries:

(a) For population, sustainable economic growth and sustainable development

(i) To integrate population policies and programmes in development strategies, based on the participation of all groups in society and focusing on strengthening social sectors with a view to influencing human development, and to work towards the solution of population problems by setting quantified national objectives for the reduction of population growth with a view to bringing down the regional natural growth rate from 3 to 2.5 per cent by the year 2000 and to 2 per cent by the year 2010, as called for in the Dakar/Ngor Declaration.

(ii) To implement measures to tackle the underlying causes of environmental degradation such as poverty, focusing on environmentally sound and appropriate technologies; to enhance the quality of the environmentally sound and appropriate technologies; to enhance the quality of the environment by reversing deforestation and soil erosion, checking the spread of deserts and adopting priority programmes aimed at management of water resources, with a view to reducing the impact of recurrent droughts and the resultant food shortages;

(iii) To place greater emphasis on such matters as food security, marketing services, appropriate agricultural mechanization, research and extension services, more efficient use of land and farming systems, livestock development and assistance programmes to small farmers;

(iv) To strengthen industrial strategies at the country level so as to encourage economic growth and employment opportunities;

(v) To create domestic stability and ensure that priority is given in policy-making to the elimination of the underlying causes of the refugee situation through negotiation, conflict resolution, democratization and respect for human rights;

(vi) To continue to improve the business environment both for domestic and foreign direct investment, including institutional reforms to allow mobilization of domestic savings, efficient provision of credit and other inputs to small farmers and small-scale and micro enterprises.

(b) For women in development

(i) To intensify efforts to improve the role, status and participation of women, and to take necessary steps to eliminate discrimination against women, which inhibits their effective advancement and participation in development;

(ii) To institute and strengthen programmes for reforming the educational system and vocational training with a view to providing basic education to all those at school age, with particular emphasis on the education of girls;

(iii) To take measures to ensure greater participation of women in the development process.

4. The Board calls upon the international community:

(a) To continue to support the commodity diversification efforts of Africa and the least developed countries, *inter alia* by providing technical and financial assistance for the preparatory phase of their commodity diversification projects and programmes, taking into account General Assembly resolution 49/142;

(b) To implement fully the Final Act of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations as scheduled, including the complementary provisions specified in the Marrakesh Agreement, in recognition of the fact that broadly based growth in incomes, employment and trade are mutually reinforcing, taking into account the need to assist African countries and the least developed countries in evaluating the impact of the implementation of the Final Act so that they can benefit fully;

(c) To strive for the fulfilment of the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for overall official development assistance as soon as possible; and to support Africa in its efforts to attract foreign direct investment (FDI);

(d) To ensure the urgent implementation of existing debt-relief agreements and negotiate further initiatives, in addition to existing ones, to alleviate the debts of the poorest and most heavily indebted low-income countries at an early date, especially through more favourable terms of debt forgiveness, including application of the terms of debt forgiveness agreed upon in the Paris Club in December 1994, which encompass debt reduction, including cancellation or other debt-relief measures; where appropriate, these countries should be given a reduction of their bilateral official debt sufficient to enable them to exit from the rescheduling process and resume growth and development; to invite the international financial institutions to examine innovative approaches to assist low-income countries with a high proportion of multilateral debt, with a view to alleviating their debt burden;

(e) To consider making available extra-budgetary resources for UNCTAD's technical cooperation programmes.

5. The Board requests the UNCTAD secretariat, within UNCTAD's mandate, and in line with conclusions and recommendations of United Nations conferences and where appropriate in cooperation with relevant agencies of the United Nations system:

(a) To propose:

(i) Ways and means to address the linkages between poverty alleviation and sustainable development, including the issue of reviving growth and changing its quality;

(ii) Ways and means to remedy the problems of poverty and satisfaction of human needs;

(iii) Recommendations to facilitate access to, and acquisition of, appropriate existing and new technologies, emphasizing the utility of scientific and technological knowledge to meet basic needs and requirements for sustainable development.

(b) To provide analysis for:

(i) The implications for African countries of basic principles designed to foster economic behaviour more in line with the imperatives of sustainable development;

(ii) Establishment of a competitive, environmentally friendly export sector;

(iii) Identification of factors and actions necessary for African countries to attract private resource flows, which is a prerequisite for sustainable development.

Future work of the Board

6. The Board requests the UNCTAD secretariat:

(a) To report to the Board in progress reports on the follow-up to these activities;

(b) To submit to the Board at the second part of its forty-second session an analytical report on the Interrelationship between economic progress, market orientation, good management, and increased popular participation.

858th plenary meeting
31 March 1995

Item 9. Other business

Decision 425 (XLI): Terms of reference of the Commission on International Investment and Transnational Corporations

The Trade and Development Board,

Acting in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), as amended, and General Assembly resolution 49/130, of 19 December 1994,

1. Decides to adopt the terms of reference of the Commission on International Investment and Transnational Corporations annexed to this decision;

2. Decides also that the rules of procedure of the main Committees of the Board shall apply to the Commission.

858th plenary meeting
31 March 1995

Annex

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX), as amended, and General Assembly resolution 49/130, of 19 December 1994, the Trade and Development Board adopts the following terms of reference for the Commission on International Investment and Transnational Corporations.

1. The Commission's work includes:

(a) Promoting the exchange of views and experience among interested Governments, businesses, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, trade unions and experts on issues relating to international investment, transnational corporations and the creation of an enabling environment for private sector and enterprise development;

(b) Reviewing and providing guidance to the secretariat with regard to its research activities and the provision of information on policies, programmes and developments related to international investment and transnational corporations and the creation of an enabling environment for private sector and enterprise development;

(c) Reviewing and providing guidance to the secretariat on technical assistance to Governments interested in developing investment regimes and enabling environments so as to attract more foreign investment and support for enterprise developments, thereby contributing to economic growth and development of host countries.

2. The Commission will consider, at the request of the General Assembly, the Conference or the Trade and Development Board, any other subject in the field of international investment and transnational corporations.

3. The Commission will keep under review the work of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting.

4. The Commission should identify for consideration areas in which technical cooperation should be strengthened.

5. The work of the Commission should be coordinated with that of Committees and Working Groups.

6. The work of the Commission should complement that of other international bodies while seeking to ensure that no duplication occurs.

7. The Commission may recommend for the consideration of the Board the establishment of expert groups.

8. The Commission shall submit periodic reports to the Trade and Development Board on its work.

9. The Commission shall meet annually in accordance with the existing procedures concerning the calendar of meetings. The duration of the sessions should be of five days or less.

C. Other action

Item 3. Sustainable development: policy review of UNCTAD's activities on sustainable development

At its 858th plenary meeting, on 31 March 1995, the Trade and Development Board took note of the report by the UNCTAD secretariat entitled "Sustainable development: policy review of UNCTAD's activities on sustainable development" (TD/B/41(2)/10).

Item 6. Other matters in the field of trade and development

- Report of the Joint Advisory Group of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT on its twenty-seventh session

At its 856th plenary meeting, on 21 March 1995, the Trade and Development Board took note of the report of the Joint Advisory Group of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT on its twenty-seventh session (ITC/AG(XXVII)/145 and Add.1), which was before the Board under cover of a note by the UNCTAD secretariat (TD/B/41(2)/12).

Item 7. Preparations for the ninth session of the Conference [3]/

At its 858th plenary meeting, on 31 March 1995, the Trade and Development Board took note of the Final Communiqué of the Eighteenth Meeting of the Chairmen and Coordinators of the Group of 77 Chapters, held in Geneva on 14-15 March 1995 (TD/B/41(2)/13), which had been circulated by decision of the Board in response to a request from the Chairman of the Group of 77 in Geneva, and decided that it should be annexed to the Board's report to the General Assembly. [4]/

At the same meeting, the Board authorized the Officer-in-charge of UNCTAD to proceed with substantive preparations for UNCTAD IX and to mobilize support for the Conference and its preparatory activities, pending the formal convening of the Conference by the United Nations General Assembly, and requested him in the meantime to pursue his consultations on the timing and venue of the Conference and related matters with a view to reporting on the results to an executive session of the Board, to be convened for this purpose, as soon as these questions are settled.

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[3]/ For the provisional agenda and the agreed annotations, see section I.A above.

[4]/ For the Final Communiqué, see annex I.

Statements made in connection with the action taken on the preparations for the ninth session of the Conference (agenda item 7) [1]

A. Statement by the representative of Pakistan

1. The representative of **Pakistan** said that he wished to reiterate some of his delegation's understandings concerning the approval by the Trade and Development Board of the provisional agenda and agreed annotations for the ninth session of the Conference. His delegation had expressed its concern that the concept of discussing national as well as international issues should not in any way be construed as an attempt to review national policies and to absolve the developed countries from their international obligations towards the developing countries. He hoped, moreover, that UNCTAD would not be transformed into a forum for the initiation and propagation of new ideas by the developed countries under the heading of "new and emerging issues". There should be a clear understanding that any such "new and emerging issues" could be discussed only after reaching a consensus on their relevance for consideration in UNCTAD. As for institutional matters and the future work of UNCTAD, he said that delegations should resist any temptation to diminish the role of UNCTAD or to regard the action taken at Cartagena as the first step in a process of weakening the organization. On the contrary, his delegation wished to see all member States engaged in the task of strengthening UNCTAD.

B. Clarification made by the Senior Legal Officer of UNCTAD

2. In response to a question put by the representative of Bangladesh regarding the legal status of the agreed annotations to the provisional agenda for UNCTAD IX, the Senior Legal Officer said that, while it was the practice of the secretariat not to interpret the results of the negotiations between government representatives, the provisional agenda, which the Board had prepared pursuant to paragraph 21 of General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) as amended, was for adoption by the Conference and the agreed annotations were the understanding of government representatives concerning the substantive items of the provisional agenda.

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[1] cf. section I.A above.

III. PROCEDURAL, INSTITUTIONAL, ORGANIZATIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND RELATED MATTERS

A. Opening of the session

1. The second part of the forty-first session of the Trade and Development Board was opened on 20 March 1995 by Mr. Richard A. Pierce (Jamaica), the President of the Board at its forty-first session.

B. Bureau of the session

2. There being no change in the officers elected to serve on the Bureau of the Board throughout the forty-first session, the Bureau of the second part of the forty-first session was as follows:

President: Mr. Richard A. Pierce (Jamaica)

Vice-Presidents: Mr. Youri Afanassiev (Russian Federation)
Mr. Phabien Raphaël Edafe (Madagascar)
Mr. Rüdiger Lemp (Germany)
Mr. Shohei Naito (Japan)
Mr. Jose Luis Perez Gabilondo (Argentina)
Mr. Stephen A. Schlaikjer (United States of America)
Mr. Adian Silalahi (Indonesia)
Mr. Björn Skogmo (Norway)
Mr. Jamaluddin Syed (Bangladesh)
H.E. Zdenek Venera (Czech Republic)

Rapporteur: Mr. Calson Mbegabolawe (Zimbabwe)

C. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

(Agenda item 1 (a))

3. At its 855th (opening) meeting, on 20 March 1995, the Board adopted the provisional agenda for the second part of its forty-first session, as contained in section I of TD/B/41(2)/1. (For the agenda, see annex II below).

4. The Board approved the proposals for the organization of the work of the session in TD/B/41(2)/1/Add.2 and thereby agreed to the following: two sessional committees would be established - Sessional Committee I to consider and report on item 2 (Trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform) and item 3 (Sustainable development); and Sessional Committee II to consider and report on item 5 (UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s). In accordance with past practice, Sessional Committee II would convert itself into a Special Sessional

Committee to consider and report on item 4 (Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s). All other items would be considered in Plenary.

5. In line with past practice, the Presiding Officers elected at the first part of the session continued to serve in the same capacities, with the Officers of Sessional Committee II also serving the Special Sessional Committee. Thus, Mrs. Anne Stoddart (United Kingdom) chaired Sessional Committee I and Mr. Carlos Amorín (Uruguay) served as Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur; while Mr. Yahya Geghman (Yemen) chaired Sessional Committee II and the Special Sessional Committee, and Mr. Vladimir Skliarov (Russian Federation) served both bodies as Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur.

6. At its 858th plenary meeting, on 31 March 1995, the Board took note of the reports of the Sessional Committees and decided to incorporate them in the final report of the Board on the second part of its forty-first session, as follows:

Sessional Committee I

TD/B/41(2)/SC.1/L.1 and Add.1-2

Sessional Committee II

TD/B/41(2)/SC.2/L.1

Special Sessional Committee

TD/B/41(2)/SSC/L.1 and Add.1-2.

D. Adoption of the report on credentials

(Agenda item 1 (b))

7. At its 858th plenary meeting, on 31 March 1995, the Board adopted the report submitted by the Bureau on the credentials of the representatives attending the second part of the forty-first session (TD/B/41(2)/14).

E. Provisional agenda for the first part of the forty-second session of the Board

(Agenda item 1 (c))

8. At the same meeting, the Board approved the draft provisional agenda for the first part of its forty-second session (TD/B/41(2)/L.3), with one minor amendment. (For the provisional agenda, see annex III below). In accordance with past practice, the Board authorized the Officer-in-charge of UNCTAD, in consultation with the President, to adjust and complete the provisional agenda in the light of developments. This arrangement was on the understanding that any amendments or additions would be subject to consultations with

representatives of States members of the Bureau and interested delegations within the framework of the consultative machinery established in accordance with paragraph 83 of the Cartagena Commitment.

F. Provisional agenda for the pre-sessional executive session of the Board in September 1995

(Agenda item 1 (d))

9. At the same meeting, the Board requested the Officer-in-charge of UNCTAD to draw up a draft provisional agenda in the light of developments, nearer to the time of the executive session, and to submit it for approval to the consultative machinery established in accordance with paragraph 83 of the Cartagena Commitment.

G. Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board

(Agenda item 8 (a))

10. At its 856th meeting, on 21 March 1995, the Board approved the applications of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) and the Arab Labour Organization (ALO) for designation under rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board. Information on these organizations was contained in documents TD/B/41(2)/R.1 and TD/B/41(2)/R.3 respectively (now derestricted).

11. At the same meeting, the Board took note that, in a communication dated 10 November 1994, the International Bauxite Association (IBA), which had been granted status at the fourth session of the Conference, had informed the UNCTAD secretariat that, as of 31 December 1994, it would be dissolved. Accordingly, the IBA had been deleted from the list of intergovernmental organizations in status with UNCTAD.

12. The Board further took note that, in a communication dated 15 November 1994, the Secretary-General of the Customs Co-operation Council, which had been granted status at the third session of the Conference, had informed the UNCTAD secretariat that, as of 3 October 1994, the working name of the organization was the World Customs Organization (WCO) but that Customs Co-operation Council remained the official name of the organization.

H. Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure

(Agenda item 8 (b))

13. Also at its 856th plenary meeting, the Board approved the application of the International Social Science Council for designation under rule 77 of the

rules of procedure of the Board and decided, in accordance with the recommendation of the Officer-in-charge of UNCTAD (see TD/B/41(2)/R.2 now derestricted) and of the Bureau, to classify the organization in the special category in accordance with paragraph 12 (b) of Board decision 43 (VII) so that it might participate in the work of the Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation.

14. At the same meeting, the Board agreed to the recommendations of the Officer-in-charge of UNCTAD and of the Bureau regarding the revised classification of non-governmental organizations in the special category, as contained in the annex to document TD/B/41(2)/CRP.2. Pursuant to the decisions by the Trade and Development Board at its mid-term review and evaluation of the work programmes of UNCTAD, whereby the five Ad Hoc Working Groups having completed their work had been wound up and three new Ad Hoc Working Groups established, the UNCTAD secretariat had reviewed the classification of non-governmental organizations in the special category in order to bring them into line with the new intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD.

15. Finally, the Board took note that, in a communication dated 9 February 1995, the Officer-in-charge of UNCTAD had been informed that, at the end of January 1995, the International Organization of Consumers' Unions (IOCU), which had been granted status by the Board at its nineteenth session, would henceforth be known as Consumers International, with the acronym CI. The legally constituted name of the organization would remain International Organization of Consumers' Unions.

I. Review of the calendar of meetings

(Agenda item 8 (c))

16. At its 858th plenary meeting, on 31 March 1995, the Board approved the draft calendar of meetings for the remainder of 1995 (TD/B/41(2)/L.1) and authorized the Calendar Group to propose any adjustments which might become necessary in the light of developments, on the understanding that its recommendations would be submitted to the Consultations of the Officer-in-charge of UNCTAD for approval.

J. Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

(Agenda item 8 (d))

17. At the same meeting, the Board noted that no particular administrative or financial implications had arisen from the action taken at the second part of its forty-first session.

K. Other business

(Agenda item 9)

Terms of reference of the Commission on International Investment and Transnational Corporations

18. At the same meeting, the **President** drew attention to the draft decision contained in TD/B/EX(9)/L.1 and recalled that, at its ninth (pre-sessional) executive session on 17 March 1995, the Board had decided to take up this matter at the second part of its forty-first session under "Other business", and had requested the UNCTAD secretariat, in the meantime, to conduct informal consultations with interested delegations on a proposed revision to the draft terms of reference.

19. The Board took note that, following consultations and pursuant to agreement reached in the Bureau on 30 March 1995, the text in TD/B/EX(9)/L.1 now remained unchanged, since the delegation concerned had withdrawn its proposed amendments on the understanding that it could retain its right to bring up its concerns when the special session of the Board prior to UNCTAD IX reviewed the intergovernmental machinery of UNCTAD. In this connection, the President confirmed that, at the time of the special session in question, any delegation would be free to raise any matters of concern to it in that regard.

20. Accordingly, the Board adopted the draft decision in TD/B/EX(9)/L.1, the annex to which sets forth the terms of reference of the Commission on International Investment and Transnational Corporations. (For the text, see section I.B above, decision 425 (XLI)).

L. Adoption of the report of the Board

(Agenda item 10)

21. At the same meeting, the Board adopted the draft report on the second part of its forty-first session (TD/B/41(2)/L.2 and Add.1-2), authorizing the Rapporteur to complete the final report with the proceedings of the closing plenary meeting and to incorporate any amendments submitted by delegations. The Board further requested the Rapporteur, under the authority of the President, to prepare the Board's report to the United Nations General Assembly.

ANNEXES

Annex I

FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE CHAIRMEN/COORDINATORS OF THE GROUP OF 77 CHAPTERS */

Meeting under the chairmanship of Ambassador Felipe Mabilangan, Permanent Representative of the Philippines to the United Nations and Chairman of the Group of 77 in New York, the Chairmen/Coordinators of the Chapters of the Group of 77 in Geneva, Nairobi, New York, Paris, Rome, Vienna and Washington D.C. adopted, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the following communique:

1. We wish to underline the important role that the Group of 77 has played in strengthening international cooperation for development and we continue to subscribe to the spirit, goals, objectives and principles incorporated in the joint declaration adopted by the Group of 77 in Geneva on 15 June 1964. We also uphold the declaration adopted by the Special Ministerial Meeting commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the Founding of the Group of 77 held in New York on 24 June 1994.

2. In reaffirming our commitment to the objectives of the Group of 77, we restate our determination to strengthen South-South cooperation in accordance with the provisions of the Caracas Programme of Action and to strengthen North-South cooperation in accordance with the Charter of Algiers.

3. In this connection we underline the relevance of the decisions taken by the 17th meeting of Chairmen/Coordinators of the Group of 77 in New York, which are aimed at strengthening the institutional effectiveness of the Group of 77. Similarly, we recall the decision of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Coordination Committee on Economic Cooperation among Developing countries (IFCC) on this matter. We are firmly committed to achieving greater collaboration between the chapters and to ensuring that our coordination is action-oriented for the mutual benefit of all developing countries.

4. We call for the support of developed countries in the implementation and follow-up of decisions and recommendations set forth in the Programmes of Action adopted in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, the Global Conference on Small Islands Developing States in Barbados in 1994, the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in September 1994, the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in March 1995; and we attach high priority to the Fourth World Conference on Women to be held in Beijing in September 1995, HABITAT II to be held in Istanbul in 1996, and UNCTAD IX to be held in Africa in 1996.

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*/ Annexed to the report by decision of the Board at its 858th plenary meeting, on 31 March 1995 (cf. section I.C above, item 7).

5. We are concerned that, in redefining the basis of international economic cooperation, the use of new concepts such as "sustainable human development" and "human security" provide scope for introducing new conditionalities and intrusiveness in the domestic policies of developing countries.

6. We emphasize the urgent need for a substantial expansion in official development assistance (ODA) and urge developed countries to honour their commitments in allocating 0.7 per cent of their GNP, as called for in the United Nations International Development Strategy, various resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, the provisions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and other relevant international agreements.

7. We reiterate the high priority that developing countries attach to the Agenda for Development, which should be based on the fundamental right to development and the recognition that development is also an indispensable prerequisite for peace. The Agenda should take into account the priorities of the developing countries, including, inter alia, those relating to financing development, industry, trade, education, culture, information, science and the transfer of technology. It should recognize that economic growth and development in developing countries are of mutual interest for developing as well as developed countries for the strengthening of the global economy. To that end, it should in particular seek to promote effective implementation of the existing commitments and agreements in the field of international economic and social cooperation including development of human resources.

8. We emphasize the importance we attach to ensuring that the United Nations system plays a greater role in the field of development by enabling both UNCTAD and specialized agencies including UNIDO to continue to play their full role as essential focal points in the United Nations system for the trade and development, food and agriculture, and industrial development of developing countries. We express our firm determination to oppose any attempt to weaken or undermine these two organizations' contribution to development and call for renewed efforts to strengthen and reinvigorate these two organizations, which have always served the development objectives of developing countries.

9. We stress our belief in the role and relevance of UNCTAD which have been confirmed by recent developments in the world economy and institutional change, including the creation of the World Trade Organization (WTO), which reinforce the need for a policy-oriented trade forum with strong development perspective such as UNCTAD. Consequently, we reaffirm the strong commitment of the members of the Group of 77 to the strengthening of UNCTAD, including the provision of adequate resources, and look forward to UNCTAD IX as a further important step towards global development.

10. We stress further the need for more effective measures and innovative strategies for external debt reduction and alleviating the debt-servicing burden of developing countries, including cancellation of such debt. We likewise express concern that reverse transfer of resources on this account impairs the process of growth and development of developing countries.

11. We reiterate our support for the follow-up process of the Rio Conference, particularly for Agenda 21 and the Conventions on Biodiversity, Desertification and Climate Change, and call upon developed countries and the United Nations

system to fulfil their commitments pertaining to poverty eradication, provision of new and additional financial resources and transfer of technology in order to enable developing countries to fulfil their obligations under Rio agreements. We call for greater coordination among the various international organizations dealing with environment and development and a more positive response to the development and environmental concerns of the developing countries.

12. We reaffirm the need for a constructive dialogue between the North and the South as an instrument for the promotion of the economic growth and development of developing countries. We stress that such a dialogue should be conducted on the basis of an economic imperative of mutuality of interests and benefits and genuine interdependence.

13. We reaffirm our commitment to South-South cooperation as a necessary and viable strategy for greater collective self-reliance for national, regional and global development, and as a major mechanism for the promotion of growth and accelerated development including human resource development, and affirm the importance of holding the ninth session of IFCC during 1995, and our full support for the convening of a United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation in 1997. We also emphasize the importance of a successful outcome of the GSTP negotiations which would serve as a catalyst for increasing trade between developing countries and impact favourably on the world economy as a whole.

14. In making this final communique, we wish to confirm our firm determination and commitment to bring our collaboration to a higher level and to make our coordination action-oriented for the mutual benefit and common interests of the developing countries.

The Chairmen/Coordinators of the Group of 77 Chapters are:

New York:	H.E. Ambassador Felipe Mabilangan (Philippines)
Geneva:	H.E. Ambassador Guillermo Alberto Gonzalez (Colombia)
Nairobi:	H.E. Ambassador Shafqat Kakakhel (Pakistan)
Paris:	H.E. Ambassador Nina Sibal (India)
Vienna:	H.E. Ambassador Ali Khalid El Hussein (Sudan)
Rome:	Dr. Adel Aboul-Naga (Egypt)
Washington D.C.:	Governor Willy W. Zapata S. (Guatemala)

Annex II

AGENDA FOR THE SECOND PART OF THE FORTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD */

1. Procedural matters:

   (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session;

   (b) Adoption of the report on credentials;

   (c) Provisional agenda for the first part of the forty-second session of the Board;

   (d) Provisional agenda for the pre-sessional executive session of the Board in September 1995

2. Trade policies, structural adjustment and economic reform:

   Developments relating to structural adjustment policies in developed countries, and their implications

3. Sustainable development:

   Policy review of UNCTAD's activities on sustainable development

4. Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s:

   (a) Status of preparations for the High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on the Mid-term Global Review of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;

   (b) Annual review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action

5. UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s:

   (a) Sustainable development, population, human resources and environment;

   (b) Progress report by the UNCTAD secretariat and evaluation of UNCTAD's contribution to the implementation of the New Agenda

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*/ Adopted by the Board at its 855th (opening) meeting, on 20 March 1995 (see section III.C above).

6. Other matters in the field of trade and development

   (a) Report of the Joint Advisory Group of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT on its twenty-seventh session

7. Preparations for the ninth session of the Conference

8. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

   (a) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board;

   (b) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board;

   (c) Review of the calendar of meetings;

   (d) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

9. Other business

10. Adoption of the report of the Board.

Annex III

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIRST PART OF THE FORTY-SECOND SESSION OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD */

1. Procedural matters:

   (a) Election of officers

   (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

   (c) Adoption of the report on credentials

   (d) Provisional agenda for the second part of the forty-second session of the Board

   (e) Provisional agenda for the pre-sessional executive session of the Board (Spring 1996)

2. International implications of macro-economic policies and issues concerning interdependence: linkages between global financial and trade flows, development, and levels of economic activity and employment, and the future implications following the Uruguay Round

3. Specific action related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries

4. UNCTAD's assistance to the Palestinian people

5. Preparations for the ninth session of the Conference

6. Other matters in the field of trade and development:

   (a) Report of the Joint Advisory Group on the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT on its twenty-eighth session;

   (b) Progressive development of the law of international trade: twenty-eighth annual report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

   [To be completed in the light of developments]

7. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

   (a) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board;

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*/ Approved by the Board at its 858th (closing) meeting, on 31 March 1995 (see section III.E above).

(b) Designation and classification of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board;

(c) Review of the calendar of meetings;

(d) Administrative and financial implications of the actions of the Board

8. Other business

9. Adoption of the report of the Board.

Annex IV

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE */

1. The following States members of UNCTAD, members of the Board, were represented at the session:

Afghanistan
Albania
Algeria
Angola
Argentina
Australia
Austria
Bangladesh
Belgium
Bhutan
Bolivia
Brazil
Bulgaria
Cameroon
Canada
Chili
China
Colombia
Costa Rica
Côte d'Ivoire
Croatia
Cuba
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Denmark
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Ethiopia
Finland
France
Gabon
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Honduras
Hungary
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Jordan
Kenya
Lebanon
Liberia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Luxembourg
Madagascar
Malaysia
Malta
Mexico
Mongolia
Morocco
Myanmar
Nepal
Netherlands
Nigeria
Norway
Oman
Pakistan
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Qatar
Republic of Korea
Romania
Russian Federation
Senegal
Slovakia
South Africa
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan

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*/ For the list of participants, see TD/B/41(2)/INF.3.

Sweden
Switzerland
Syrian Arab Republic
Thailand
The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
United States of America
Venezuela
Viet Nam
Yemen
Zambia
Zimbabwe

2. The following States members of UNCTAD, not members of the Board, were represented as observers at the session:

Holy See
Niger

3. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) United Nations Development Programme were represented at the session. The International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT was also represented at the session.

4. The following specialized and related agencies were represented at the session:

International Labour Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
World Health Organization
International Monetary Fund
United Nations Industrial Development Organization

World Trade Organization was also represented.

5. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented at the session:

European Community
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
Organization of the Islamic Conference
Organization of African Unity

6. The following non-governmental organizations were represented at the session:

General Category

Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers)
International Bar Association
International Chamber of Commerce
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
Third World Network
World Federation of United Nations Associations
World Peace Council
World Veterans Federation

Special Category

Environmental Development Action in the Third World
International Air Transport Association